

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A method for treating nausea and/or vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising the steps of: i) applying one or more electrodes on or under the skin in the neck of a patient in need thereof, and ii) applying electrical current from an external current source to a vagus nerve located in the neck of [[a]] the patient in need thereof, to thereby reduce nausea and/or vomiting.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further including the step[[s]] of: applying one or more electrodes on or under the skin; connecting the electrode(s) to [[the]] an external current source[[;]], and passing current from the external current source to the electrode(s), thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and/or vomiting.

Claims 3-4. (Cancelled).

Claim 5. (Original) The method of claim 2, further including the step of implanting the electrodes under the skin.

Claim 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the current is passed to the electrodes by magnetic induction.

Claim 7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the electrodes are connected to internal electronics and an inductive pickup loop implanted under the skin.

Claim 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein an inductive loop transmitter is connected to the external current source.

Claim 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the inductive loop transmitter and the inductive pickup loop form a magnetic inductive link.

Amendment dated October 3, 2011

After Final Office Action of April 1, 2011

Claim 10. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the applying step includes placing the electrodes directly on the skin.

Claims 11-28. (Cancelled).

Claim 29. (Currently amended) A method for treating nausea and/or vomiting of a pregnant female, comprising the steps of: i) applying one or more electrodes on or under the skin in the neck of a pregnant female, and ii) applying electrical current to a vagus nerve in the neck of the pregnant female to thereby reduce nausea and/or vomiting.

Claim 30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the female has been selected and/or identified as suffering from nausea and/or vomiting associated with pregnancy and thereafter the vagus nerve is treated with electrical stimulation.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) A method for treating nausea and vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising the steps of: implanting one or more electrodes under the skin of the neck of a patient; connecting the electrodes to an external current source; and passing current from the external current source to the electrodes by magnetic induction, thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and vomiting.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) A method for treating nausea and vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising the steps of: placing one or more electrodes on the skin of the neck of a patient; connecting the electrodes to an external current source; and passing current from the external current source to the electrodes, thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and vomiting.

Claim 33. (Currently amended) A method for treating nausea and vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising the steps of: placing a magnetic stimulation coil on ~~or near~~ the skin of the neck of a patient; connecting the magnetic stimulation coil to an external current source; and passing current from the external current source to the magnetic stimulation coil, thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and vomiting.

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Claim 34. (Currently amended) A method for treating nausea and/or vomiting of a chemotherapy patient, comprising the steps of: i) applying one or more electrodes on or under the skin in the neck of a chemotherapy patient, and ii) applying electrical current to a vagus nerve located in the neck of the patient to thereby reduce nausea and/or vomiting.

Claim 35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein the chemotherapy patient has been selected and/or identified as suffering from nausea and/or vomiting associated with chemotherapy treatment and thereafter the vagus nerve is treated with electrical stimulation.

Claim 36. (Cancelled).

Claim 37. (Currently amended) A method for treating nausea and/or vomiting of a patient suffering from severe motion sickness, comprising the steps of: i) applying one or more electrodes on or under the skin in the neck of a patient suffering from severe motion sickness, and ii) applying electrical current to a vagus nerve located in the neck of the patient to thereby reduce nausea and/or vomiting.

Claim 38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the patient has been selected and/or identified as suffering from nausea and/or vomiting associated with severe motion sickness and thereafter the vagus nerve is treated with electrical stimulation.

Claim 39. (Cancelled).

Claim 40. (Previously presented) A system for treating nausea and vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising: one or more electrodes applied on or under the skin of a neck; and an external current source for supplying current to the electrodes from outside the body, thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and vomiting.

Claims 41-61. (Cancelled).

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Claim 62. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the stimulation is actuated manually.

Claim 63. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the stimulation is actuated automatically.

Claim 64. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the stimulation is turned on and off automatically at designated times.

Claim 65. (Previously presented) A system for treating nausea and vomiting caused by pregnancy, motion sickness, or chemotherapy, comprising: one or more electrodes implanted under the skin of a neck; and an external current source for supplying current to the electrodes from outside the body by magnetic induction, thereby stimulating the vagus nerve to reduce nausea and vomiting.

Claims 66-67. (Cancelled).